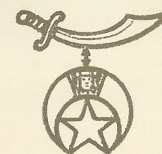


The
IMPERIAL PAGEANT
and
RECEPTION TO
Robert Gardiner Wilson, Jr.

Imperial Potentate
of the
Shrine of North America



WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1951

Mechanics Building, Boston



ANDREW S. SEILER
Illustrious Potentate
 OF
 ALEPPO TEMPLE, A.A.O.N.M.S.
 OF
 BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS



ROBERT GARDINER WILSON, JR.
Imperial Potentate
 OF THE
 IMPERIAL COUNCIL
 ANCIENT ARABIC ORDER OF THE NOBLES OF THE
 MYSTIC SHRINE FOR NORTH AMERICA

A RE-ENACTMENT OF THE
Imperial Potentate's Pageant

as presented by Aleppo Temple at the Imperial Council Session at New
York City on the Occasion of the Election of Illustrious Noble
ROBERT GARDINER WILSON, JR., in July, Nineteen Fifty One.

UNDER THE DIRECTION OF
ORIENTAL GUIDE HERMAN C. McSTAY



TABLEAU ONE
"The First Thanksgiving in America"
1621

TABLEAU TWO
"Knickerbocker Cottage"
Birthplace of the Shrine
1872

TABLEAU THREE
"Harvard Yard"
Graduating Class — 1914

TABLEAU FOUR
A Surprise Party on the lawn of the Wilson Home
Wellesley, Massachusetts, July 12, 1951



Woodard Outdoor Furniture by Charles E. Smith Co.
Antique "Carver Chair" by Fred J. Finnerty, Boston

Concert

HARVARD GLEE CLUB
G. WALLACE WOODWORTH, Conductor
EDMUND P. ALLISON, Assistant Conductor

Program

DOMINE SALVAM FAC	Gounod
NOW LET EVERY TONGUE ADORE THEE	Bach
Chorale from Cantata 140	
SUPPLICATIONS	Palestrina
O MARIA DIANA STELLA	Italian Laude, XV Century
LOVE SONGS (Waltzes from Liebeslieder Walzer)	Brahms
TWO SPIRITUALS	Arranged by John W. Work
MY LORD, WHAT A MORNING	
Solo: James Harkless, '52	
GIVE ME JESUS	
Solo: Oscar M. Henry, Harvard 2G, Fisk '49	
FOUR OLD AMERICAN SONGS	Arranged by Aaron Copland
	Adapted for Chorus by Irving Fine, '37
THE BOATMAN'S DANCE (Minstrel Song, 1843)	
Solo: Stefan Shatzki, '52	
THE DODGER (Campaign Song)	
Solo: Vincent B. Allison, 1G	
SIMPLE GIFTS (Shaker Song)	
I BOUGHT ME A CAT (Children's Song)	
MARCHING TO PRETORIA (South African Veld Song)	
Arranged for the Harvard Glee Club, 1949, by Ruth E. Abbott	
THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING: Netherlands Hymn	



ARTHUR MACKENZIE, Concert Pianist	
THE GREAT GATE AT KIEV	Moussorgsky
TRAUMEREI	Schumann
CAPRICE	MacKenzie
LIZA	Gershwin
MARCHE	Prokofieff



ASST. RABBAN ARTHUR G. MACKENZIE
Director of Entertainment

Steinway Piano

Reception Committee
TO OUR IMPERIAL POTENTATE



Ill. Potentate *and* Mrs. ANDREW S. SEILER
Chief Rabban *and* Mrs. LAWSON W. OAKES
Assistant Rabban *and* Mrs. ARTHUR G. MACKENZIE
High Priest *and* Prophet *and* Mrs. GERALD F. ZEDREN
Oriental Guide *and* Mrs. HERMAN C. MCSTAY
Treasurer *and* Mrs. JUSTIN A. DUNCAN
Recorder *and* Mrs. HARVEY B. LEGGEE
First Ceremonial Master *and* Mrs. GEORGE A. WEEKS
Second Ceremonial Master *and* Mrs. EDGAR L. TURNER
Director *and* Mrs. FRANK W. WATSON
Marshal *and* Mrs. WALTER W. BENSON
Captain of the Guard *and* Mrs. FRANCIS R. SAGLE
Outer Guard HAROLD H. TODD
Past Potentate *and* Mrs. CLARENCE J. MCKENZIE
Past Potentate *and* Mrs. HARRY G. POLLARD
Past Potentate *and* Mrs. JAMES J. CURRY
Past Potentate *and* Mrs. WILLARD P. LOMBARD
Past Potentate ARTHUR A. SONDEHEIM
Past Potentate *and* Mrs. LIONEL G. H. PALMER
Past Potentate *and* Mrs. FRANK B. ELLS
Past Potentate *and* Mrs. N. RUSSELL LYNN

YOUR IMPERIAL POTENTATE

THE life story of our distinguished guest this evening is one of accomplishment through grim determination. Bearing the distinction of being the first Imperial Potentate to hail from Massachusetts, he brings to his high office the same courage, dependability and rugged vitality that was his New England birthright.

Born in Boston, September 4, 1891, Robert Gardiner Wilson, Jr., seemed destined to spend his life as an invalid, for at the age of four he contracted scarlet fever, followed by a hip disease which forced him to spend two years in iron braces. The boy, however, was not to be downed, and succeeded in making his way about with the aid of crutches. This grim determination was rewarded when medical science aided by the prayers of a deeply religious mother, succeeded in restoring him to good health. Those same crutches and braces, today still in the Wilson home, offer in part, mute explanation for the manhood interest of our Imperial Officer in the Shriners' Hospitals for Crippled Children.

His scholastic history is also one of accomplishment. Graduating with honors from the historic Boston Latin School, he went on to study law at Harvard, where through his interest in athletics, he risked recurrence of his earlier disability. During his last year at law school, he developed osteomyelitis in his left shoulder, and was forced to wear a crude hammered leather and metal shoulder brace for two years. Again determination to win out over odds came to his aid, along with medical science . . . and now that same brace keeps company with his earlier crutches and splints. His disability prevented him from serving in the armed forces during World War I, but did not cool his ardor and determination to help out in some way. The summer of 1917 found him a foreman of a labor crew constructing Camp Devens at Ayer, Massachusetts.

Shortly after beginning the practice of law, he became interested in politics and served his city for twelve years as a member of the Boston City Government, under four successive mayors. In 1940, his worth was recognized by the then Governor of Massachusetts, Leverett Saltonstall, now senior Senator from the Commonwealth. He was honored with a life appointment as Judge of Probate, with the unanimous approval of the Governor's Council.

His history as a Mason parallels his success as a man. Raised in 1913 by his father, he went on to serve as Worshipful Master of Joseph Webb Lodge of Boston, and from then on served with distinction in the numerous other inter-related branches of Masonry. It was August of 1918 that he joined Aleppo Temple, where he immediately became a member of the Arab Patrol. He has to this day retained his membership in that colorful organization. He became Potentate of Aleppo in 1940, and continued in that high office through 1943 . . . attesting to his success and popularity as chief officer of his Temple. Now risen to the ultimate in Shrinedom . . . the thirty thousand Nobles from the six New England States . . . salute their Imperial Potentate Robert Gardiner Wilson, Jr., and proudly hail him as their leader.